



Date: September 5, 2012

To: Authorized Representatives of School Nutrition Programs and
School Nutrition Program Managers/Directors

From: Cindy Loechler, SNS, MS, RD, CD
Training Coordinator

RE: Training Opportunities for the 2012-2013 School Year

The Department of Public Instruction – School Nutrition Team (SNT) is pleased to announce the creation of the new SNT Training Team. Loriann Knapton, Erin Lorang, and Cindy Loechler will spearhead training opportunities during the school year at locations across the state to meet the variety of training needs of school nutrition professionals to be in compliance with the new nutrition standards and meal pattern requirements. New this year, **New Meal Pattern Training** and **Menu Certification Workshops** have been scheduled in Madison and/or other areas across the state to help School Food Authorities (SFAs) create menus that are in compliance with the new requirements and submit documentation to receive the additional six cent reimbursement for lunches. Additional trainings will be scheduled as the needs arise. **What's New with School Nutrition, Small Victories, and Great Beginnings Academy**, three popular training opportunities for school nutrition program professionals, will also be offered again during the 2012-2013 school year. Please support and encourage your school nutrition professionals to register for the training(s) that best meet their needs.

New Meal Pattern Training



New Meal Pattern Training – Meal pattern component and menu training will be conducted throughout the school year in locations across the state to help school nutrition professionals understand the changes to the National School Lunch Program and create menus that are in compliance with the new regulations. Offer versus Serve will also be addressed.

Target Participants: School nutrition managers/directors and line staff, especially those new to school nutrition programs and those needing to be refreshed on the new nutrition standards and meal pattern requirements.

Menu Certification Workshop



Menu Certification Workshops – These workshops are designed to help begin the process of completing the menu worksheets and simplified nutrient assessment, if applicable, necessary for approval of the additional six cent reimbursement. They provide instruction and technical assistance for completing the USDA Menu Certification Tool. Participants will have time to begin entering data specific to their schools.

Target Participants: School nutrition managers/directors, and other school staff responsible for entering and submitting menu certification workbooks for approval of the additional six cent reimbursement.

(Over)

What's New with School Nutrition



What's New with School Nutrition – Beginning September 11th, join the School Nutrition Team the second Tuesday of every month from 2-3 p.m. via web conferencing to receive the latest updates on Child Nutrition Reauthorization and other hot topics pertaining to the exciting world of school nutrition. No registration is required to participate. Monthly discussions are archived on the website for viewing 24/7.

Target Participants: School administrators, school nutrition managers/directors and anyone with responsibilities for operating/administering school nutrition programs are encouraged to participate.

Small Victories Series



The Small Victories Series (SV) - Developed to encourage and empower managers and foodservice employees working in small schools, the SV Series has been designed to celebrate the unique environment specific to schools with small student enrollments. Classes will address a variety of school foodservice topics with emphasis placed on the concerns and issues that are unique to small schools. This fall's topics will cover changes under the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act 2010 (HHFKA) including the new meal pattern, updated Offer versus Serve requirements, and food safety techniques for handling fresh produce.

Target Participants: Anyone currently working in a small school environment is encouraged to attend including administrative staff, school nutrition managers, directors and line staff.

Great Beginnings Academy



Great Beginnings Academy (GBA) – GBA is a one year training experience developed for School District/School Managers/Directors who are **new** to school nutrition programs. By attending three classes in Madison throughout the school year and participating in two additional training sessions via technology, participants will receive training and support to better understand program regulations, identify existing resources, and create a network of peers to transition into a successful school nutrition program. Class size is limited.

Target Participants: Managers/Directors new to school nutrition with 2 years or less of experience are encouraged to attend and will be given preference to attend GBA. If space is still available, site managers for school districts may be accepted. Due to limited class size, no more than two participants from the same school district/private school will be accepted. This series is not intended for general staff training.

To register for Great Beginnings Academy, please complete the GBA application attached to the enclosed flyer and fax it to Cindy Loechler at 608-267-0363.

Participants interested in becoming School Nutrition Association (SNA) Certified at Level 2 can receive Specialized Training Hours towards certification at the end of the Great Beginnings Academy trainings. SNA Certification adds credibility to your school nutrition program, recognizes professional achievement, and demonstrates commitment to the School Nutrition profession.

Additional Information

Additional information for all trainings is enclosed. If you have questions regarding the Small Victories Series, please contact Loriann Knapton at loriann.knapton@dpi.wi.gov or 608-266-1046. Contact Cindy Loechler at cynthia.loechler@dpi.wi.gov or 608-266-5185 if you have questions regarding New Meal Pattern Training, Menu Certification Workshops, What's New with School Nutrition and Great Beginnings Academy.

To register electronically for all trainings, with the exception of What's New with School Nutrition and Great Beginnings Academy, go to the Wisconsin Child Nutrition Programs webpage at <http://fns.dpi.wi.gov/>, click on the Index button and go to the Training Opportunities webpage.

Training Request Form

To better assess and meet the numerous requests for trainings from SFAs across Wisconsin, the training team has developed a Training Request Form. While attempts will be made to honor each request, it may not be possible to accommodate all requests. Training Request Forms must be submitted at least 6-8 weeks prior to the proposed date of training to allow time for the training team to review the training request and to make necessary arrangements.

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